

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES: SECOND ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER TO JOSEPH J. BELL IV, ESQ. FOR A TERM COMMENCING ON MARCH 20, 2023 AND TERMINATING ON DECEMBER 31, 2023 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,400

WHEREAS, the Township of Bridgewater requires the services of a professional New Jersey licensed attorney as follows: Second Alternate Municipal Public Defender; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the New Jersey Local Unit “Pay to Play Law, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., the Township has sought qualified professionals, namely New Jersey licensed attorneys, to provide the services through the use of a “fair and open process,” as defined in N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and

WHEREAS, as required by this law, the Township provided sufficient notice of its Request for Proposals/Qualifications; publicly solicited RFPs through the utilization of the Township’s official Web site; established an award and disclosure process documented in writing prior to soliciting any RFPs; publicly opened all proposals; and publicly will award the Contract via this Resolution of the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, in response to the RFP, Joseph J. Bell IV, Esq. has submitted a proposal to serve as Second Municipal Public Defender for the Township through December 31, 2023, and said proposal meets the selection criteria articulated in the aforementioned RFPQ; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Matthew C. Moench hereby appoints Joseph J. Bell IV, Esq. as the Second Alternate Municipal Public Defender and the advice and consent of the Township Council is needed; and

WHEREAS, Joseph J. Bell IV, Esq. shall be compensated at a rate of \$600 for each municipal court session where he renders legal services per the RFP; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council deems it in the best interests of the Township to award a contract to Joseph J. Bell IV, Esq. to provide the services delineated in the RFPQ and wishes to provide its advice and consent; and

WHEREAS, the funds will be certified upon adoption of the temporary budget and subsequent adoption of the 2023 Municipal Budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council that it hereby provides its advice and consent to the appointment by the Mayor of Joseph J. Bell IV, Esq. as the Second Alternate Municipal Public Defender, to serve in that role in circumstances where the Municipal Public Defender and the First Alternate Public Defender are unavailable to serve, where there are one or more eligible defendants on the same matter, where the Municipal Public Defender and the First Alternate Public Defender otherwise have a conflict of interest, or otherwise at the direction of the Municipal Public Defender or the Municipal Court Judge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater

that a Professional Services Contract be awarded and executed with Joseph J. Bell IV, Esq. to provide professional legal services as Second Alternate Municipal Public Defender as reflected in the RFP through December 31, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mayor Matthew C. Moench and Township Clerk Linda Doyle are hereby authorized to execute the contract and any and all related documents reflected in the RFP and its attachments with Joseph J. Bell IV, Esq. and to take any and all actions necessary to complete and realize the intent and purpose of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Joseph J. Bell IV, Esq. shall be compensated at a rate of \$600 for each municipal court session where he renders legal services per the RFPQ in an amount not exceed \$2,400.00 for the calendar year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be publicly advertised pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:11-5 et seq.

Introduced	Seconded	Council	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
		Kurdyla	✓			✓
✓		Norgalis	✓			
		Pedroso	✓			
		Ring	✓			
	✓	Kirsh	✓			

Adopted: March 16, 2023